

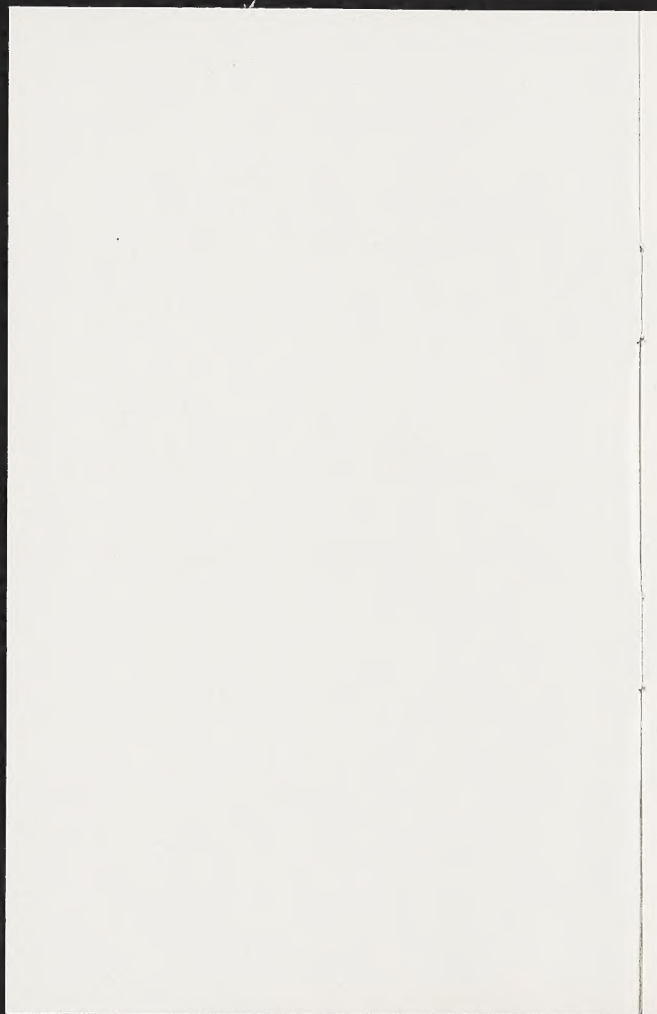
1924

# *Bread Loaf*

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## BREAD LOAF

It is a vexed question which teachers all over the country are asking themselves each spring,—Shall I take a real vacation this year and enjoy myself; or shall I study and fit myself for advancement in my profession? Middlebury College has hit upon a plan which answers the question for many of us by offering a chance for the tired teacher to rest and for the ambitious teacher to work. Those of the profession who are both tired and ambitious at the end of the school year should know about the Summer Session of the English School at Bread Loaf.

When Middlebury College decided upon a summer school of English, there was no place in the already crowded college to house it. The college had been fortunate in receiving as a bequest Bread Loaf Inn, twelve miles up in the mountains from the college proper, together with about thirty-four thousand acres of wood land, part of it being virgin forest. There are farms here and there in this vast tract, making a pleasing variety in the landscape. A campus of thirty-four thousand acres would be an impossibility for the college to manage if it were not that the Green Mountain Club has blazed trails all through these mountains. The Long Trail comes within three miles of Bread Loaf Inn, and with its several branches makes an ideal opportunity for hiking. And so the School of English was established four

years ago at Bread Loaf Inn, the curious rambling old inn almost in the shadow of the mountain whose name it bears. The school of English has had to accommodate itself to the building as it was. One student wrote home that her class in vocal technique met in the music room, history of the drama in the bowling alley, and stage design in the woodshed that they were making over into a work shop, but that on sunny days any of the recitations might be held under a tree on the lawn.

Outings are always planned for the week ends. These may be strenuous two-day hikes where those participating start off Saturday morning clad in knicker suits, with blankets and packs, and sleep that night in one of the mountain lodges, or they may be the easy two or three hour hikes along the easier trails. Or you may choose a morning's botany trip, or a day on the porch with a little golf or tennis by the way of exercise.

But the students of Bread Loaf do study. Many of them carry as much work as they would at the usual summer session of a college or university in the city. But they do their work much more easily because of the outings and the out-of-door life which they lead. Twelve courses were offered this summer, dramatics and creative writing being stressed. There are courses in literature, composition, appreciation, and methods. There are instructors from Middlebury, Columbia, Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Harvard, Simmons,

Carleton, and Bridgewater State Normal School. One of the interested visitors this summer has been an Oxford don who has succumbed to the charms of the place to the extent of giving one of the most charming lectures of the season. With ten instructors and one hundred ten students there is a chance for each student to become well acquainted with his teacher. This is especially easy at Bread Loaf, where faculty and students are housed together and where there are no outside distractions.

The courses in the drama are unique. This department is presided over by two instructors trained in Harvard's 47 Workshop. Every Friday evening there is a play that is produced entirely by Bread Loaf talent. The scenery and costumes are made by the students. This summer the last play produced was "A Midsummer Night's Dream," given out on the lawn with real trees and shrubs as background. One of the drawbacks in play production has been the lack of lighting by any means but kerosene lamps. Thirty or forty of these have sometimes been used at once to give the effect of sunlight streaming through a window, but an evening performance out of doors seemed impossible until the brilliant scheme of using automobile headlights was devised.

The noted guests entertained at Bread Loaf make a very interesting part of the summer's experiences. Eminent poets, novelists, editors and lecturers come to the school

from time to time, either for an evening's lecture or to spend a few days with us, visiting classes and enjoying our porches and walks—really chumming with the "Loafers."

The one hundred ten students at Bread Loaf this year came from nineteen states—from Minnesota to North Carolina, and as far west as Kansas. Twenty of them had been there before; ninety were new to the charms of the place. What visitors and students are most struck with is the spirit of friendliness. It is in the air—the Vermont air perhaps where things do not move very fast and where everyone has time to be thoughtful and friendly, and can stop to enjoy the peace and beauty of the Green Mountain country.

Lucia Granville Pittman.

THE SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

Conducted By

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

AT BREAD LOAF INN

July 1—August 14, 1924

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Courses are conducted on the studio plan in creative writing, play production, and stage design, as well as studies in criticism and English literature which will be of interest to teachers of English.

The location of this School in the heart of the Green Mountains, only three miles from the Long Trail of the Green Mountain Club, affords an ideal spot for summer study and recreation.

The Summer Session of  
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

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The Summer Session of Middlebury College is wholly conducted in distinct schools of which the **French**, **Spanish**, and **Music** are conducted at Middlebury, the School of English at Bread Loaf Inn in the Green Mountains, and a foreign section of the French School in Paris.

For information regarding these schools, address:

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